

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 468
By Rochelle

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Coach Donny Baker and the 1995-1996 Gordonsville High School boys' basketball team on reaching the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association State Tournament.

WHEREAS, the Tennessee General Assembly is very proud of athletic teams which work diligently, persevere and succeed; and

WHEREAS, the fine 1995-1996 Gordonsville High School boys' basketball team has recently completed a very exciting season, coming on strong when it counted the most, won 20 games and the coveted District 6-A Tournament, finished runner-up in tough Region 3-A Tournament action and reached the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Class A State Tournament; and

WHEREAS, unheralded and overlooked at the start of the District 6-A Tournament, Gordonsville exhibited fierce determination and exceptional skill to win the title, beating Friendship Christian 65-57 and Trousdale County 44-29; and

WHEREAS, at the Region 3-A Tournament, the Tigers pounced on Red Boiling Springs 68-48 and Van Buren County 55-50; and

WHEREAS, in the crucial substate game, they bested BGA 81-79; and

WHEREAS, this was the second appearance in the state tournament for the Gordonsville boys, the other being in 1973, under legendary coach Turney Ford, whose Tiger team went 29-2; and

WHEREAS, each of their tournament victories came on the road; and

WHEREAS, under the expert guidance of highly regarded **Head Coach Donny Baker** and his capable **Assistant Coach Tony Randolph**, Gordonsville, with only two senior players, has played with considerable maturity; and

WHEREAS, the team leaders were: sharpshooting senior guard **Brent Inman**, son of Charles and Elaine Inman, who was selected District 6-A Most Valuable Player, was the school's Paul Bass Memorial Most Valuable player and the school's Best 3-Point Shooter; senior guard **Robert Johnson**, son of Robert and Irene Johnson, who was named the school's Most Dedicated Player; junior center **Tim Chappell**, son of Sue Chappell, who was recognized as Region 3-A All-Tournament, District 6-A All-Tournament and the school's Best Offensive Player; junior forward **Neil Chilton**, son of Gary and Gail Chilton, who was a Region 3-A Tournament and Coach's Award honoree; junior guard **Matt Gentry**, son of David Gentry, Region 3-A All-Tournament, District 6-A All-Tournament and the school's Most Improved Player; junior guard **Tim Sevier**, son of Billy and Sandy Sevier, who received the school's Team Spirit Award; junior guard **Mike Bane**, son of Hubert and Joyce Bane, the school's Most Consistent Player Award; junior center **Jeff Kleparek**, son of Marilyn Saville, the school's Mr. Hustle Award; and sophomore forward **Jeff Bennett**, son of Sherrill and Beverly Bennett, District 6-A All-Tournament and the school's Best Defensive Player; and

WHEREAS, each of the other players, **Josh Conditt**, son of John and Nan Conditt; **Chad Stewart**, son of Jimmy Stewart and Shelby Stewart; **Stacy Woodard**, son of Gordon and Deborah Woodard; **Jay Slatton**, son of Keith Slatton; and **Derrick Baker**, son of Ricky and Ria Baker, have helped the team; and

WHEREAS, the enthusiastic cheerleaders, under the outstanding sponsorship of **Vicki McKinney**, were: **Sarah Bullington**, daughter of Jim and Connie Bullington; **Wendi Long**, daughter of Libby Ward; **Russti Oldham**, daughter of Mike and Louanne Robinson; **Lauren**

Pilant, daughter of Debe Howard; **Kandi McKinney**, daughter of Larry and Faye McKinney; **Dawn Stafford**, daughter of Bill and Bonnie Stafford; **Rachel Hawkins**, daughter of Stanley and Cindy Hawkins; and **Christin Bradley**, daughter of Roger and Nancy Bradley; and

WHEREAS, the hard-working managers were **Beth Watts**, daughter of Larry and Ruby Watts; **Annie Gregory**, daughter of Sandy Coogan; and **Nicki Carter**, daughter of Joe and June Carter; and

WHEREAS, Gordonsville students, faculty, parents and community members have been very supportive; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we pause in our deliberations to specially recognize this special team; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we honor and congratulate Coach Donny Baker and the 1995-1996 Gordonsville High School boys' basketball team and wish them much continued success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That appropriate copies of this resolution be prepared for presentation, with this final clause omitted from such copies.

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